

**Research Note****IMPACT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PERSONNELS VISITS ON CONTACT AND NON-CONTACT FARMERS UNDER T & V SYSTEM**S. K. Sharma<sup>1</sup>, O.P. Daipuria<sup>2</sup> & Vinod Sharma<sup>3</sup>

Visits are official of professional calls to personal meetings with the farmers by the agricultural extension personnel with aim to transfer the technical or technological "know-how" received by them in the training's attended by them at different or at their own level. The main aim of extension visits is to transfer scientific agricultural production technology to the farmers in the shortest possible time on regular basis to all farm-families, whether contact or non-contact farmers according to the needs and problems of the farmers and location.

Properly conducted scheduled visits of agricultural extension personnel improve the "knowledge" of contact and non-contact farmers. Visits being essential at least with the contact farmers means local "Knowledge centres" will be established from where the knowledge and skills will be diffused to other needy farmers. Visits of agricultural extension personnel play an important role in increasing knowledge of farmers is also supported by studies of *Kubde et al. (1994)* and *Patel & Nahatkar (1995)*. The present study therefore was conducted with the following objectives :-

1. To know regularity of visits of Agricultural Extension Personnel (R.A.E.Os.) with contact and non-contact farmers.
2. To study the impact of visits of Agricultural Extension personnel (R.A.E.Os.) on respondent farmers knowledge of L.C.I.T. (Low cost input technology) before and after T & V system.

**METHODOLOGY :**

The study was conducted in Bhind district of Gird region of M.P., which was selected purposively. The "Training and visits system" (T & V System) was designed and introduced by Dr. Daniel Benor, it was first introduced in 1977. But in India this system was introduced in 1979. Therefore by taking year 1977 as base year. present study was carried out in Gohad block of Bhind district of M.P. The impact of T & V system was measured in terms of increased farmers knowledge after the T & V system was brought in force as compared with the period before T & V system. There were 6 A.D.O. and 32 R.A.E.O. circles in Gohad block. Out of 32 R.A.E.O. Circles 15 were randomly selected and from such R.A.E.Os. circles sample of 150 respondent i.e. 75 contact farmers and 75 non-contact farmers were again randomly selected. Thus 150 respondents were interviewed for the purpose of study.

R.A.E.Os. visits with contact and non-contact farmers termed here regularity of visit. The visits were considered regular visits if the R.A.E.Os. visited their have (field of farmers) as per their schedule of visits as laid in T & V system.

How much the respondent farmers came in contact of extension workers depended on his regularity of visit, hence the relationship of impact was seen as associations between the extent knowledge Vs. regularity of visits as reported by both the categories of respondent farmers contact as well as non-contact farmers.

$$\text{KnowledgeIndex(K.I.)} = \frac{\text{Score surved by individual farmers of his knowledge of L.C.I.T.}}{\text{Total score ascribed to the knowledge L.C.I.T.}} \times 100$$

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :**

(I) The regularity of visits of R.A.E.Os. was measured in number & percentage as regular, irregular and no visits with contact and non-contact farmers category. It is presented in table-1.

**Table 1. Distribution of respondents according to the groups based on regularity of R.A.E.Os. visits**

S.No.	Category of farmers	Regularity of visits			Total No. of respondent
		Regular visit	Irregular visit	No visit	
1.	Contact farmers	59 (78.66)	12 (16.00)	4 (5.33)	75
2.	Non-contact farmers	28 (37.33)	41 (54.66)	6 (8.00)	75
<b>Total</b>		<b>87 (58.00)</b>	<b>53 (35.33)</b>	<b>10 (6.67)</b>	<b>150</b>

Figures in parentheses indicate percentage.

As it is apparent from the data in the table-1, a big majority of the contact farmers (78.66%) received regular visits as against 37.33% of non-contact farmers in this category of visits. Only 16% contact farmers reported irregular visits as against the non-contact farmers 54.66%. Only 5.33% contact farmers reported to have received no visit as against 8% non-contact farmers who also did not received any visits of R.A.E.Os. From this, it can be inferred that the R.A.E.Os have been paying visits to their practically good extent.

In order to get overally perspective, irrespective of contact or non-contact farmers; out of 150 farmers, 58% farmers received regular visits and 35.33 % farmers received irregular visits whereas 6.67% farmers reported no visits of R.A.E.Os.

(II) Impact of R.A.E.Os visit on contact and non-contact farmers in terms of the knowledge of L.C.I.T. during the periods before and after T & V system in related to the regularity of R.A.E.Os visits.

The knowledge index of L.C.I.T. is an indicator of the level of agronomical practices of respondents. The knowledge of respondents was measured by knowledge index and calculated in terms of mean and standard deviation and "t" test was applied to know its significance how significant was its association with regularity of visits.

**Table 2. Impact of RAEOs visits compared for the periods before and after T & V system in terms of knowledge of LCIT according to the regularity of visits as reported by the respondent farmers**

S. No.	Visits	Respondents N=75	Knowledge of low cost input technology				Calculated 't' value	
			After 1977 as on 1996		before 1977			Avg. dev.
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
<b>Contact farmers</b>								
1.	Regular	59 (78.66%)	71.79	9.17	21.48	5.24	50.31	40.28**
2.	Irregular	12 (16.00%)	58.00	7.13	18.38	6.70	39.62	13.71**
3.	No visits	4 (5.33%)	25.00	8.86	12.00	3.26	13.00	3.02 NS
<b>Non contact farmers</b>								
1.	Regular	28 (37.33%)	33.28	6.62	18.57	6.90	14.71	9.70**
2.	Irregular	41 (54.66%)	28.19	7.84	15.80	6.04	12.39	8.86**
3.	No visits	6 (8.00%)	12.61	4.67	5.32	4.13	7.32	2.56NS

(i) Figure in parenthesis are percentage. (ii) \*\* Highly significant at 0.01% level. (iii) NS-Non significant.

As it is crystal clear that the impact of R.A.E.Os. visits during T & V system i.e. after 1977 to 1996, the year of investigation, in terms of the knowledge of L.C.I.T. on the contact as well as non-contact farmers as compared to the period before 1977 i.e. before T & V system was found to be highly significant in case of both the farmers category who reported R.A.E.Os. visits as regular and irregular as the calculated "t" values were greater than the corresponding table "t" value for regular as well as irregular visits at both the levels of 0.05 and 0.01%. The impact on the farmers falling under "no visit" category from the contact as well as non-contact farmers was found to be non-significant. This fact could be ascertained further from the values of mean, standard deviation and average deviation of the knowledge of L.C.I.T. for the period before and after T & V system for the corresponding categories of regular, irregular and no visits paid to the contact and non-contact farmers.

### CONCLUSION :

The findings led to conclude that the majority of farmers get invariably regular visits of R.A.E.Os. and the impact of the visits on contact and non-contact farmers in terms of knowledge of L.C.I.T. was found to be highly significant. These results are useful for trainers, trainees and deptt. of agriculture, University Scientists etc. as it would provide satisfaction and screw up their courage to meet future challenges.

### REFERENCES :

1. Kubde et al. (1994). Impact of T & V system on Agricultural development. Maharashtra J. Extn. Edu. Vol. XIII : 265-268.
2. Patel & Nahatkar. (1995). Role of contact farmers in information dissemination under T & V System. Maharashtra J. extn. Edu. Vol. XIV : 133-136.

